

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-14

SS-20 L-03 SR-02 ORM-03 PRS-01 SCA-01 VO-03 NSC-07

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 SY-04 INSE-00

DRC-01 EUR-25 EA-11 /126 W
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O R 161047Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6426

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 3155

E.O. 11652: XGDS(2)

TAGS: CGEN, PINS, SA

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICANS REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM

1. SUMMARY. THREE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALS APPROACHED EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 12 -14 REQUESTING POLITICAL ASYLUM. THEY ARE EX-PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS (PAC) MEMBERS WHO LEFT PAC DUE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. THEY RECENTLY RELEASED FROM DETENTION AND HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO LEAVE TANZANIA BY GOVERNMENT WITHIN WEEK'S TIME. DETAILS THEIR CASES FOLLOW: END SUMMARY.

2. ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1974, MR EDGAR NQOLASE, SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL BORN JULY 11, 1928, IN PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA, OCCUPATION TEACHER/JOURNALIST/PRINTER, AND MR. SIMON GWABE AKA DINGIZWE, SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL, BORN MAY 11, 1940, TRANSVAAL, SOUTH AFRICA, WALKED INTO EMBASSY REQUESTING POLITICAL ASYLUM IN THE UNITED STATES. THE ONLY DOCUMENTATION EITHER ONE HAD WAS LETTER TO MR. NQOLASE FROM UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES IN GERMANY STATING HOW PLEASED HE WAS MR. NQOLASE RELEASED FROM PRISON. MR. GWABE HAD NO PAPERS BUT PROMISED TO RETURN WITH HIS SOUTH AFRICAN IDENTITY CARD.

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3. BOTH INDIVIDUALS STATED THEY HAD NOT INFORMED ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OF THEIR INTENTION TO REQUEST ASYLUM, NOR HAD THEY SEEN THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES. THEY INDICATED THEY PLANNED TO GO DIRECTLY FROM THE EMBASSY TO THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

4. BOTH MEN CLAIM THEY ARE BEING FORCED TO LEAVE TANZANIA DUE TO THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE LEFTIST POLITICAL IDEOLOGY OF THE PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS (PAC). THEIR INDIVIDUAL HISTORIES ARE AS FOLLOWS.

A) MR. NQOLASE JOINED THE PAC IN 1960; FROM 1962-1965 PAC CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE IN KINSHASA, ZAIRE; 1965-71 CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE NAIROBI, KENYA. IN 1971 HE CAME TO TANZANIA TO WORK IN PAC OFFICE, DAR ES SALAAM. UPON HIS RETURN HE CLAIMS (I) TO HAVE BEEN DISENCHANTED WITH SHIFT IN PAC'S POLITICAL IDEOLOGY FROM NATIONALISTIC ORGANIZATION TO VEHICLE FOR CHINESE LEFTIST PROPAGANDA, AND (II) WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF PAC. THEREFORE, HE LEFT THE PAC IN 1971, ESTABLISHED THE SOUTH AFRICAN CULTURAL CENTER IN DAR ES SALAAM AND EVENTUALLY CLAIMS HE WAS ACCUSED OF BEING "AN AGENT OF THE IMPERIALISTS" FOR USING USIS PROJECTORS, HOLDING FUND-RAISING DINNERS THAT WERE CONSIDERED "CAPITALIST" WAY OF RAISING MONEY AND LIVING IN A WESTERN STYLE. IN SEPTEMBER 1972 MR. NQOLASE WAS ARRESTED AND DETAINED IN KEKO PRISON UNTIL HIS RELEASE IN JUNE 1974.

B) SIMON GWABE AKA DINGIZWE JOINED THE PAC IN 1960 IN JOHANNESBURG. HE WAS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE WHITE CITY BRANCH OF PAC JOHANNESBURG AND TASK FORCE LEADER. HE WAS DETAINED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT FOR TWO MONTHS IN 1963. IN 1965 HE CAME TO TANZANIA TO WORK AT PAC OFFICE AS ACCOUNTANT. FROM 1966 TO 1970 HE ATTENDED ACCOUNTING COURSE IN ETHIOPIA AND RETURNED TO DAR ES SALAAM AS PAC'S CHIEF ACCOUNTANT. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE LEFT PARTY IN 1972 AFTER BECOMING DISENCHANTED WITH THE POLITICAL IDEOLOGY OF THE PAC AND JOINED MR. NQOLASE'S CULTURAL CENTER. MR. GWABE WAS ARRESTED ALONG WITH MR. NQOLASE IN SEPTEMBER 1972 AND RELEASED ON JUNE 20, 1974.

5. THEIR PROBLEM WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA (GOT) IS AFTER LEAVING PAC THEY LOST THEIR STATUS AS FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND HAD PETITIONED THE GOVERNMENT FOR CLASSIFICATION AS REFUGEES. THEY PETITIONED AGAIN AFTER THEIR RELEASE IN JUNE 1974 AND WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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VERBALLY INFORMED MORNING (SEPTEMBER 12) BY HOME AFFAIRS OFFICE THAT PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAD REJECTED THEIR REQUEST AND THEY HAD APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK TO LEAVE TANZANIA. GOT HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE THEM TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED THEY LEAVE WITHIN THIS PERIOD.

6. BOTH MEN CLAIM LEFTIST ELEMENTS INSIDE GOT, PAC AND OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT INFLUENCED DECISION AGAINST THEM AND THEY ARE

BEING FORCED TO LEAVE BECAUSE OF THEIR OPPOSITION TO CURRENT
POLITICAL IDEOLOGY OF PAC.

7. THEY CLAIM TO HAVE NO CRIMINAL CHARGES PENDING; NOR ARE
OR EVER WERE THEY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY; AND THEY
HOLD NO CURRENT POSITION IN EITHER PAC OR ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION.

8. MR. NQOLASE STATED THAT HIS FAMILY IS STILL IN SOUTH
AFRICA. MR. GWABE'S WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN ARE RESIDING WITH HIM
IN DAR ES SALAAM.

9. MORNING, SEPTEMBER 13, BENNY MOLEFE MALEPE, SOUTH AFRICAN
NATIONAL BORN NOVEMBER 4, 1941, PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA, REQUESTED
ASYLUM IN UNITED STATES REPEATING SAME STORY AS MR. NQOLASE AND
MR. GWABE, I.E. HE LEFT PARTY DUE IDEOLOGICAL SHIFT OF PAC
TOWARD COMMUNISM; WAS ARRESTED ON CHARGES HE CAPITALIST AGENT IN
SEPTEMBER 1972 AND RELEASED JUNE 1974. MR. MALEPE STATED HE
JOINED PAC IN JANUARY 1960 AND SERVED AS DEPUTY COMMANDER IN
CHIEF MILITARY SECTION PAC UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1971 WHEN HE RESIGNED.
MR. MALEPE HAD NO DOCUMENTATION; STATED HE HAD NOT BEEN MEMBER
COMMUNIST PARTY NOR HOLDS ANY POSITION NOW; HAS NO CRIMINAL
CHARGES PENDING AGAINST HIM; AND FOREIGN AUTHORITIES NOT AWARE
HE SEEKING ASYLUM.

10. CONSULAR OFFICER ASKED IF ANY COUNTRIES WOULD ACCEPT THEM
(ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA ESPECIALLY). THEY REPLIED THEY FELT ZAMBIA
WOULD REJECT THEIR REQUESTS BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONS
BETWEEN ZAMBIA - TANZANIA. THE FIRST SECRETARY, ZAIRE EMBASSY
WHO THEY VISITED ASKED THEM TO PUT THEIR REQUEST IN WRITING BUT
TOLD THEM DECISION WOULD TAKE A LONG TIME. THEY ALSO TOLD CONSULAR
OFFICER THAT UNHCR WILLING PROVIDE CERTIFICATION OF DETAILS
THEIR CASE AND WILL PAY THEIR AIR FARE TO ANY COUNTRY WILLING
TO ACCEPT THEM PERMANENTLY. UNHCR OFFER DOES NOT APPLY FOR
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TEMPORARY REFUGE.

11. SHOULD DEPARTMENT GRANT ASYLUM REQUEST, WOULD APPRECIATE
GUIDANCE FOR PROCESSING THESE CASES.
CARTER

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